

PRESS RELEASE

DCR Celebrates National Preservation Month throughout the Month of May

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Department of Conservation & Recreation

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BOSTON — The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) today announced that during the month of May, which is National Preservation Month, the DCR will highlight cultural and historic sites with increased programming opportunities for public participation. Additionally, this year marks the 25th anniversary of the DCR’s [Historic Curatorship Program](/service-details/historic-curatorship-program) (</service-details/historic-curatorship-program>). The program seeks public-private partnerships in an effort to preserve and protect endangered historic structures throughout the Commonwealth.

“The Baker-Polito Administration remains dedicated to the preservation of culturally significant sites and historic properties, and during National Preservation Month, we encourage everybody to get outside and explore some of these important locations that have helped define Massachusetts through the centuries,” **said DCR Commissioner Leo Roy**. “Furthermore, the DCR’s Historic Curatorship Program serves as a great example of the efforts being made here in the Commonwealth to preserve historic structures for the benefit of future generations.”

The DCR protects thousands of years of history within the state parks system, from Native American sites to designed gardens. These properties exhibit centuries of human ingenuity in adapting the Commonwealth's land for everyday life. During Preservation Month, visitors of state parks can participate in both group programs offered by the agency or conduct self-guided outings. Some programming opportunities include hikes throughout the state parks system, interpretive programming, and tours of properties.

Additionally, the DCR's Historic Curatorship Program was first developed in 1994, and since then, there have been 24 historic structures successfully restored and rehabilitated with over \$24 million of private funds contributing to the program's success. To join the program, selected curators are required to use the property in a manner that is compatible with the park and the surrounding community, and must provide public access to the property at least two times a year. Open houses for several of the Historic Curatorship Program's properties have been arranged for the public during National Preservation Month, including the 19th century Bell Farmhouse in the City of Newburyport, the 1847 Gatekeeper's House at the Pawtucket Falls in the City of Lowell, and the 1930's Bascom Lodge, located at the summit of Mount Greylock in the Town of Adams.

Participants of programming offered by DCR during National Preservation Month are asked to share their experiences on social media by tagging the agency, @MassDCR, and using the hashtags #PreservationMonth and #ThisPlaceMatters. For more information regarding DCR's Preservation Month programming, including locations and times, please visit the agency's programming [webpage](#)

[\(/info-details/dcr-celebrates-national-preservation-month-by-recognizing-25-years-of-the-historic\)](/info-details/dcr-celebrates-national-preservation-month-by-recognizing-25-years-of-the-historic).

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Department of Conservation & Recreation

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DCR manages state parks and oversees more than 450,000 acres throughout Massachusetts. It protects, promotes, and enhances the state's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

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